

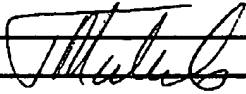
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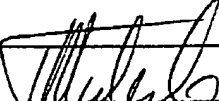
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09 / 807,968	
	Filing Date	10/07/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Gullickson et al.	
	Art Unit	3679	
	Examiner Name	Gregory J. Binda	
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	115.9

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Thomas E. Malyszko, reg. no. 39,466, customer no. 26,109
Signature	
Date	02/26/2004

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Typed or printed name	Thomas E. Malyszko
Signature	
Date	02/26/2004

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FEB 26 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARKS OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09 / 807,968 Confirmation no. 8217
Applicant : Gullickson et al.
Title : Drive Shaft Coupling Device
Filed : July 10, 2001
TC/AU : 3679
Examiner : Gregory John Binda

Docket no. : 115.9
Customer no. : 26,109

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA, U.S.A. 22313-1450

RESPONSE (SUPPLEMENTAL)

Sir:

This is in response to the Interview Summary dated January 29, 2004 requesting the filing of a statement of the telephone interview with the Examiner on January 27, 2004.

Applicant concurs with the Substance of the Interview as set out by the Examiner in the above-noted Interview Summary and Continuation Sheet (PTOL-413), namely:

a) It was noted in the interview that a feature rejected as new matter in the Office Action of Nov.25/04 (paragraphs 4 & 5) is described at page 2, lines 4+ of the application, as filed, and is enabled by the ability of the shear bolts 50 to be slid out from between the flanges 42, 44 without moving the flanges apart.

b) It was noted in the interview that, regarding paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 19 and 20 would be rewritten to address the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In the subsequent Response of Jan.24/04 it was noted that new claims 21 to 30 replace claims 14 to 20 (now canceled) and are drafted to overcome this rejection. The number of new claims was increased to specifically address this issue.

Appl. No. 09/807,968
Amendment dated Jan.28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Nov.25, 2003

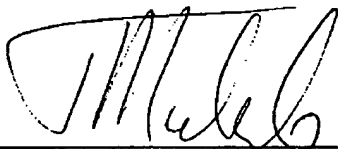
c) The interview discussed the rejection of claims 14-20 under 35 USC 103(a) and the cited prior art, namely Brown and Grauel. It was noted and agreed that those two reference, when combined, fail to show or suggest coupling flanges with planar inside faces such that a shear bolt having larger diameter shoulders has flush engagement with the planar inside faces. It was noted that applicant's structure is an improvement over the prior art, and is a significant benefit to users, as it allows the shear bolt to be removed from the coupling flanges after overload without having to spread the flanges, as would be required in the prior art. It was therefore agreed that an allowable base claim should reflect the above-noted structural features.

In the subsequent Response of Jan.24/04 claims 14-20 were canceled, and a new base claims 21 was presented which includes the above-noted structural features, and thus should be patentable. New dependent claims 22 to 30 should be allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for this application. If anything further is required, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Thomas E. Malyszko

Reg. No. 39,466

Tel.: (403) 540-3204

Date: February 26, 2004